

## PRESS RELEASE

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Press office: +389 (0)2 308-0446 Cell phone: +389 (0)70 367 547 Email: <u>bvelickovska@usaid.gov</u>

## Third Annual Educational Rendezvous - A Marketplace for Education in Macedonia

From April 17-19, 2008 tens of thousands of students, teachers and businessmen will converge at the Macedonian Opera and Ballet for Macedonia's largest student-focused event, the third annual Education Rendezvous. The Education Rendezvous provides a forum for high school students to market themselves to future employers and to demonstrate their leadership and business skills through competitions ranging from writing business plans to public speaking. Sixty-six high schools will present their programs to graduating primary school students and their parents in an attempt to attract the best students. The Rendezvous is open to the public.

"The Educational Rendezvous has become a major event, show-casing the ability of vocational schools in Macedonia to produce students ready to excel in the global economy," said USAID Mission Director Patricia Rader at the opening ceremony. The ceremony also featured Sulejman Rushiti, the Minister of Education and Science, and Fijat Canovski, owner of the main event sponsor, FON University.

The Youth Association of Vocational High Schools in Macedonia (MASSUM), USAID, through its Secondary Education Activity, and the Ministry of Education and Science organized the event. Generous support has also been provided by General Sponsors, 5<sup>th</sup> Private High School and FON, as well as by Event Partners mobile operator VIP and Komercijalna Banka - Skopje.

For more information, please visit <u>www.sea.org.mk</u> and <u>www.massum.org</u>

## NOTE TO EDITORS:

The American people, through USAID, have invested nearly \$500 million in Macedonia since 1993. USAID is implementing projects that create jobs, reduce corruption, and prepare Macedonian students for the workforce. These initiatives improve the quality of life and support Macedonia's transition to a stable and prosperous democracy. USAID provides economic and humanitarian assistance in more than 100 countries. For more information please visit <a href="http://macedonia.usaid.gov">http://macedonia.usaid.gov</a>.